IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method for fabricating a laminate composite structure comprised of a solid laminate and a composite sandwich structure, the method comprising:

layering a plurality of plies of material with interspersed orientations within a stacking sequence to create ~~a~~ the solid laminate; ~~and~~

terminating a plurality of inner plies of the solid laminate such that outer plies of the laminate composite extend to create a top face sheet and a bottom face sheet of the composite sandwich structure;

inserting a second plurality of plies of material in the laminate composite structure where the inner plies of the solid laminate terminate and extending the second plurality of plies of material from the point of termination of the inner plies for a specified distance, wherein the second plurality of plies of material do not extend as long as the top face sheet and the bottom face sheet of the composite sandwich structure; and

inserting a plurality of pins into the solid laminate composite, prior to curing the laminate composite, at locations in the geometry of the solid laminate where the solid laminate forms a bend.

2. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the plurality of pins are composite material inserted substantially normal to the laminate composite surface.

3. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the location of the plurality of pins extends beyond the bend in the solid laminate.

4. (original) The method of claim 3, wherein the plurality of pins are inserted into the solid laminate with decreasing density as the location of the plurality of pins extends outward from the bend.

5. (currently amended) The method of claim 1~~, wherein the laminate composite structure is comprised of a solid laminate and a composite sandwich structure, the method~~ further comprising[[:]]

~~terminating a plurality of the inner plies of the solid laminate such that the outer plies of the laminate composite extend to create a top face sheet and a bottom face sheet of the composite sandwich structure;~~

~~inserting a second plurality of plies of material in the laminate composite where the inner plies of the solid laminate terminate and extending the second plurality of plies of material from the point of termination of the inner plies for a specified distance, wherein the second plurality of plies of material do not extend as long as the top face sheet and the bottom face sheet of the composite sandwich structure; and~~

inserting core material into a void in the laminate composite bounded by the termination of the second plurality of plies of material, the top face sheet, and the bottom face sheet.

6. (original) The method of claim 5 wherein the plurality of inner plies of the solid laminate are terminated sequentially, beginning with the innermost ply first and continuing outward toward the top and bottom face sheets, and wherein each ply of the second plurality of plies of material begins where an inner ply of the solid laminate terminates and each ply of the second plurality of plies of material terminates in the same location, creating a wedge of material plies inserted into the laminate composite.

7. (original) The method of claim 5 wherein the second plurality of plies of material are all oriented at substantially 90 degrees.

8. – 20. (cancelled)

21. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein inserting a plurality of pins into the solid laminate composite comprises inserting a volume of pins such that the plurality of pins comprises approximately two percent of the volume of the solid laminate at the bend.

22. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein inserting a plurality of pins into the solid laminate composite comprises inserting a volume of pins such that the plurality of pins are equidistant from one another.